



Chapter Two: The Earth and All That Is in It

Acts 18:1-4
October 3, 2021

The Misnomer of “Ministry” as a Thing In Itself

To the Lord God belongs...the earth and all that is in it: Deuteronomy 10:14

All of life, every moment is the context for “ministry”

I am going into the ministry is a better description of being born than going to seminary

The core meaning of the word translated “ministry” in the New Testament is “service”

Every day we are called to serve God by serving those around us: Philippians 2:3-4

While discernment toward each company is warranted, all work itself is good!

The analogy of the “pollution-dissolving ocean pellets”

Paul the Tentmaker: Acts 18:1-4

Paul made tents (leather, goatskin cloth, linen?) (Roman military camps, private orders?)

Paul affirmed the legitimacy of mission support: see 1 Timothy 5:17,18; 1 Cor 9:3-14

His primary method was to work and self-provide: Acts 20:34; 1 Cor 4: 12; 9:12-15; 2 Thess 3:7-9

Though he did accept help from the Macedonian church: 2 Cor 11:7-9; Phil 4:10-18

1. **Genuineness** and not “peddlers of the Word of God”: 2 Corinthians 2:17

The hurdle every paid minister must face: what is the motive for the specific deed?

2. To give an example of the **value** and **importance of hard work**: see 2 Thessalonians 3:7-9

Paul was critical of laziness that took advantage of others: 2 Thessalonians 3:6, 10-12;

3. To gain **incarnational access** to the working class: see 1 Corinthians 9:22

Paul’s elite training and mind could have insulated him from working class folks

Mission Outposts as Tentmaking

Like Paul we are to use our given vehicles to further God’s good purposes

1. **Genuineness** as authentic Christians is not proved in church but in the world

2. Affirm the **value** of the thing in which you co-participate; model **integrity** and **excellence**

3. **Where you belong** is where you get to be **fully yourself**, love others in Jesus’ stead

Do your work as for the Lord; it is Christ Jesus Whom you serve: Colossians 3:23,24

My Mission Map on Consecration Sunday

October 3, 2021

<p>OUT</p> <p>1. The one way in which I will participate in Highland's shared mission through May 2022 is:</p> <p>The Highland Shared Mission invites you to participate in ONE of three areas: Highland Christian Preschool, Highland Middle School, or serving in a ministry role at Highland Covenant Church (see clipboards on the display table for specific options).</p>	<p>ME</p> <p>1. My intentional Mission Outpost focus through May 2022 will be:</p> <p>Mission Outposts are spheres of relationship in which you can invest: relationships at work, at school, in your neighborhood, at the gym, in a hobby or recreational circle, on-line, in a common-cause, friends and acquaintances from your past history.</p>
<p>US</p> <p>2. The way(s) in which I intend to meet together with Highlanders through May 2022</p> <p>Possible ways in which I will meet together with other Highlanders are: Sunday corporate worship, Sunday Learning Circles (i.e. Sunday School), Confirmation, ministry team or committee, a small group, one-on-one, trio:</p>	<p>IN</p> <p>Some elements of my "Rule of Life" for the next three months:</p> <p>Possible elements for my "Rule of Life" could include: quiet time, Bible memorization, devotional reading, prayer times, fasting, solitude, silence, self-examination, spiritual friendships, sabbath, simplicity, journaling, meditation, secrecy, generosity, service, witness, worship, and many other ideas.</p> <p>1. 2. 3. 4. 5.</p>